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The Washington Post
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Dear George,

In your card you indicated you might be coming up soon. I hope so because I want to discuss the book that is to be published. By a small publisher and I do not know when. I want to say nothing publicly about it now. And it presents some real problems to the publisher. One is publishing Harry Livingstone, with his High Trash 3 scheduled for October appearance and I have taken felony charges against him to the local states attorney who has not rejected them after quite some time. Again, I do not want to go public on this for a number of reasons but it is a complication.

When Dave Wrone asked to see a couple of the chapters I wrote first, without my asking him and without his telling me of it in advance he retyped all of them and then the rest of the draft on his computer. It was an enormous labor on his part because it is a very large manuscript, at least a quarter of a million words. You may not regard him as objective but I'm sure he'll be glad to tell you what he thinks of it. As will Jerry McKnight, history professor at Hood here in Frederick. Jerry has read much but not all of it. I hate to be saying I want to say nothing publicly but with what I say next, that should not come from me and might be embarrassing if it does. In writing the Hood president recommending that Lil and I be given honorary degrees he said of this book that it "should revolutionize thinking about the assassination of President Kennedy." Later Hood's president phoned to tell me that the trustees had voted for it "enthusiastically and unanimously." Until Hood announces it I should not. Award in August.

My purpose was to perfect the record for history and in the writing I did first what I regarded as most important or what I could do faster. For the historical record I may well have done more than most publishers might want. My own belief is that perhaps extensibe cutting is planned and that the cutting should not be extensive. But I will have little or no influence on that.

I do think it is solid. It is not conjectural. And there is in it what is new.

I read the chapters to correct them before sending them to Wrone and then when I got them retyped from him. I have yet to read it through. I'm delaying that until I pass the next two of a series of medical hurdles, the first, at Hopkins day after tomorrow, my semi-annual evaluation of the circulation in my legs and a week later, locally, on the lingering chronic bronchitis I've developed.

Last week's, at Hopkins, amounts to an endorsement of a new treatment for prostate problems. Now that you are nearing the relevant age, it is called proscar. The pill, taken daily, is as tiny as it is expensive, $1.75 each. But Hopkins believes it has worked so well with me that absent the development of a problem I do not have to return for a year.

Best, Harold